1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Beth E. Terrell, CSB #178181 Email: bterrell@tmdwlaw.com Michael D. Daudt, CSB #161575 Email: mdaudt@tmdwlaw.com Whitney B. Stark, CSB #234863 Email: wstark@tmdwlaw.com TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT & WILLIE PLLC 936 North 34th Street, Suite 300 Seattle, Washington 98103-8869 Telephone: (206) 816-6603 Facsimile: (206) 358-3528 [Additional counsel appear on signature pages.]	nge]							
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff								
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	UNITED STATES D FOR THE SOUTHERN DIST BEE, DENNING, INC., d/b/a PRACTICE PERFORMANCE GROUP, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Plaintiff, V.								
20	CAPITAL ALLIANCE GROUP,	DEMAND FOR JUNE TRIAL							
21	Defendant.								
22									
23	I. INTRODI	UCTION							
24	1.1 Plaintiff Bee, Denning, Inc., o	l/b/a Practice Performance Group,							
25	individually and as a class representative f	•							
26	similarly situated, brings this class action a								
27	Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ("TCPA"), and alleges as								
28	follows:								
·	1								

II. PARTIES

- 2.1 Plaintiff Bee, Denning, Inc., d/b/a Practice Performance Group ("Plaintiff") is a company that provided consultation and continuing education for physicians based in La Jolla, California. Practice Performance Group is owned and operated by Judy Bee and Jeffrey Denning. Plaintiff is, and all times mentioned herein was, a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39).
- 2.2 Defendant Capital Alliance Group ("Capital Alliance" or "Defendant") is a California corporation that maintains its principal place of business at 1950 East 17th Street, 3rd Floor, Santa Ana, California, 92705. Capital Alliance is, and all times mentioned herein was, a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39).

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3.1 This court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C § 1331, as the action arises under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 *et seq.*, which is a federal statute.
- 3.2 This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it does business in California and many of the wrongful acts alleged in the Complaint were committed in California.
- 3.3 Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the wrongful acts alleged in the Complaint occurred in this judicial District.

IV. THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 1991, 47 U.S.C. § 227

4.1 In 1991, Congress enacted the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ("TCPA") in response to a growing number of consumer complaints regarding certain telemarketing practices, including preventing the transmission of unsolicited facsimiles (or "junk faxes"). Junk faxes impose unwanted burdens on the contacted party, including the costs of paper and ink and making fax machines unavailable for legitimate business purposes.

- 4.2 The TCPA makes it unlawful "to use any telephone facsimile machine, computer, or other device to send, to a telephone facsimile machine, an unsolicited advertisement." *See* 47 U.S.C. §§ 227(b)(1)(C).
- 4.3 The TCPA defines "unsolicited advertisement" as "any material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services which is transmitted to any person without that person's express invitation or permission." *See* 47 U.S.C. §§ 227(a)(4).
- 4.4 The TCPA provides a private cause of action to persons who receive facsimiles in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C). *See* 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).

V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 5.1 Defendant Capital Alliance Group provides short term business loans and equipment financing and leasing to small to middle-sized companies. On information and belief, part of Defendant's strategy for increasing the volume of its customers involves sending unsolicited facsimile advertisements to solicit business, many of which are made to recipients who have not consented to receive these facsimiles.
- 5.2 On or about August 14, 2013, Plaintiff received a fax offering "SHORT TERM BUSINESS LOAN FAST AND SIMPLE". The fax advertised that it provided capital for small businesses as an alternative to traditional bank financing.
- 5.3 The fax encouraged the reader to go to www.communitybf.com or call 1-800-950-4042. Upon information and belief, the website, phone number and contact email are all owned maintained and operated by Defendant. Upon information and belief, Defendant is responsible for initiating the sending of the above-described fax.
- 5.4 Plaintiff received similar faxes from Defendant again on September 9, 2013 and September 23, 2013.

- 5.5 Defendant's faxes to Plaintiff's fax line were advertisements, soliciting Plaintiff to obtain a credit line or other services through Defendant.
- 5.6 Plaintiff did not provide prior consent to the receipt of faxes from Defendant, did not voluntarily agree to make its facsimile number available for public distribution, did not invite or give permission to Defendant to use its fax number, and had no established business relationship with Defendant.
- 5.7 Upon information and belief, Defendant initiated a large number of substantially similar unsolicited fax advertisements to persons in California and throughout the United States.
- 5.8 Upon information and belief, Defendant intends to continue to send similar unsolicited fax advertisements to persons in California and throughout the United States.

VI. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

6.1 <u>Class Definition</u>. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(2) and Rule 23(b)(3) on behalf of itself and a class (the "Class") defined as follows:

All persons or entities in the United States who, on or after four years prior to the filing of this action, received one or more unsolicited facsimile messages containing an advertisement that was initiated by or on behalf of Defendant, or its agents or affiliates with whom Defendant did not have an established business relationship or with whom Defendant did not obtain prior express permission to send a fax.

Excluded from the Class are Defendant, any entity in which a Defendant has a controlling interest or that has a controlling interest in a Defendant, and Defendant's employees or agents, legal representatives, assignees, and successors. Also excluded are the judge to whom this case is assigned and any member of the judge's immediate family.

6.2 <u>Numerosity</u>. Defendant has sent unsolicited facsimile messages containing an advertisement similar to that received by Plaintiff to numerous

- other Class members who did not have an established business relationship with Defendant or otherwise consent to the receipt of the facsimile. The Class members number in the thousands, such that joinder of all members is impracticable. The disposition of the claims of the Class in a single action will provide substantial benefits to all parties and the Court.
- 6.3 Adequacy. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel with substantial experience in prosecuting complex litigation and class actions. Plaintiff and its counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the members of the Class, and have the financial resources to do so. Neither Plaintiff, nor his counsel, has any interest adverse to those of the other members of the Class or each other.
- 6.4 <u>Superiority</u>. Absent a class action, most members of the Class would find the cost of litigating their claims to be prohibitive, and will have no effective remedy. The class treatment of common questions of law and fact is also superior to multiple individual actions or piecemeal litigation in that it conserves the resources of the courts and the litigants, and promotes consistency and efficiency of adjudication.
- 6.5 Typicality. The factual and legal bases of Defendant's liability to Plaintiff and to the other members of the Class are the same, resulting in injury to Plaintiff and to all of the other members of the Class as a result of the receipt of the unsolicited facsimile advertisement alleged herein. Plaintiff and the other Class members have all suffered harm and damages as a result of Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct based on the receipt of the unsolicited facsimile advertisement. Defendant has acted and failed to act on grounds generally applicable to Plaintiff and the other members of the Class in initiating the unsolicited facsimile advertisements at issue, requiring the Court's imposition of

uniform relief to ensure compatible standards of conduct toward the members of the Class.

- 6.6 <u>Commonality</u>. There are many questions of law and fact common to the claims of Plaintiff and the other members of the Class, and those questions predominate over any questions that may affect individual members of the Class. Common questions for the Class include but are not limited to the following:
- a. Whether the initiation of the unsolicited facsimile advertisement by Defendant and/or its agents, affiliates and/or others acting on Defendant's behalf violate 47 U.S.C. § 227 and 46 CFR § 64.1200;
- b. Whether Defendant and/or its agents, affiliates and/or others acting on Defendant's behalf should be enjoined from violations 47 U.S.C. § 227 and 46 CFR § 64.1200 in the future; and
- c. Whether Class members are entitled to treble damages based on the willfulness of Defendant's conduct.
- 6.7 <u>Predominance</u>. Defendant engaged in a common course of conduct toward Plaintiff and the Class. The common issues arising from the conduct that affect Plaintiff and the Class predominate over any individual issues.

VII. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF VIOLATION OF 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C)

- 7.1 Plaintiff incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.
- 7.2 The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant and/or its affiliates, agents and/or other persons or entities acting on Defendant's behalf constitute numerous and multiple violations of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C).
- 7.3 As a result of Defendant's and/or its affiliates, agents and/or other persons or entities acting on Defendant's behalf negligent and/or willful violations of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C), Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500 in statutory damages for each and every negligent facsimile in violation

of the statute, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and treble damages of up to 1 \$1,500 for each and every knowing and/or willful facsimile in violation of the 2 statute, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3). 3 Plaintiff is also entitled to and does seek injunctive relief prohibiting 4 7.4 5 Defendant and/or its agents, affiliates, and/or other persons or entities acting on Defendant's behalf from violating the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(C), in the 6 7 future. VIII. RELIEF REQUESTED 8 9 Plaintiff requests the Court enter judgment against Defendant as follows: 10 An order certifying the Class as defined above; A. An award of actual and statutory damages, including for statutory 11 В. damages of \$500 for each legal violation committed by Defendant, plus treble 12 damages for each intentional and/or willful legal violation; 13 C. Granting declaratory, equitable and/or injunctive relief as permitted 14 by law to ensure that Defendant will cease to initiated the sending of unsolicited 15 facsimile advertisements; 16 D. An award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and 17 E. Such further and other relief as the Court deems fair and equitable. 18 IX. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL 19 Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38(b), Plaintiff demands a trial by jury of any 20 and all issues in this action so triable of right. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28

1	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AND DATED this 5th day of November						
2	2013.						
3	TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT						
4	& WILLIE PLLC						
5							
6	By: <u>/s/ Beth E. Terrell, CSB #178181</u> Beth E. Terrell, CSB #178181						
7	Email: bterrell@tmdwlaw.com						
	Michael D. Daudt, CSB #161575						
8	Email: mdaudt@tmdwlaw.com Whitney B. Stark, CSB #234863 (<i>Attorney</i>						
9	Admission Submitted – Status Pending)						
10	Email: wstark@tmdwlaw.com						
11	936 North 34th Street, Suite 300 Seattle, Washington 98103-8869						
12	Telephone: (206) 816-6603						
13	Facsimile: (206) 358-3528						
14	Stefan Coleman (Pro Hac Vice Admission						
15	Application to be Filed)						
16	Email: law@stefancoleman.com						
	LAW OFFICES OF STEFAN COLEMAN 201 South Biscayne Boulevard, 28th Floor						
17	Miami, Florida 33131						
18	Telephone: (877) 333-9427						
19	Facsimile: (888) 498-8946						
20	Attorneys for Plaintiff						
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
20							

Case 3:13-cv-02654-BAS WYF COVER THE Filed 11/05/13 Page 9 of 11

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil do	ocket sneet. (SEE INSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE O	F THIS FO	RM.)					
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS BEE, DENNING, INC., d/ individually and on behalt			JP,	DEFENDANTS CAPITAL ALLIANC	E GROUI	Р			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Numbe	r)		Attorneys (If Known) '13 CV2654 DMS WVG					
SEE ATTACHED				10012004 51110 1110					
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		L TIZENSHIP OF PI	RINCIPA	L PARTIES		-	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State		Incorporated or Pri of Business In T	ncipal Place	Defenda PTF □ 4	<i>nnt)</i> DEF □ 4
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🗖 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A		5	□ 5
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗖 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	□ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			EC	DEELTHDE/DENAY TW	D A N	IVDUDTCV	OTHER C	r a trijti	EC
CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	PERSONAL INJURY □ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel &	PERSONAL INJUR 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability Pharmaceutical Personal Injury - Product Liability Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPEF 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PERSONAL PROPEF 530 Other Personal Property Damage 10 385 Property Damage 11 Sample Product Liability PRISONER PETITION 12 Habeas Corpus: 13 463 Alien Detainee 15 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 15 530 General 15 535 Death Penalty Other: 15 540 Mandamus & Oth 15 550 Civil Rights 15 55 Prison Condition 15 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	Y	DRFEITURE/PENALTY 5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Other LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Management Relations 0 Railway Labor Act 1 Family and Medical Leave Act 0 Other Labor Litigation 1 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application 5 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appe □ 423 With 28 U PROPEI □ 820 Copy □ 830 Paten □ 840 Trade SOCIAL □ 861 HIA 0 □ 862 Black □ 863 DIW □ 864 SSID □ 865 RSI (FEDERA □ 870 Taxes or Do □ 871 IRS—	RTY RIGHTS rrights at emark SECURITY (1395ff) a Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) Title XVI (405(g)) AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff efendant)	OTHER S' □ 375 False Cla □ 400 State Rea □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and □ 450 Commerc □ 460 Deportati □ 470 Racketeen □ Corrupt C □ 480 Consume □ 490 Cable/Sal □ 850 Securities □ Exchange ■ 890 Other Sta □ 891 Agricultu □ 893 Environm □ 895 Freedom Act □ 896 Arbitratic □ 899 Administ Act/Revie Agency D □ 950 Constituti State State	ims Act pportion d Bankin e on r Influen rrganizat r Credit TV //Commo e tutory A ral Acts ental Ma of Inforr on rative Pr ew or Ap ecision ionality o	ment ng ced and tions odities/ ctions atters nation ocedure opeal of
	moved from 3	Remanded from Appellate Court	□ 4 Rein Reop		rred from r District	☐ 6 Multidistri	ict		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Brief description of ca			Oo not cite jurisdictional stati	utes unless di	versity):			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	N D	EMAND \$		HECK YES only:		omplaiı No	nt:
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	T NUMBER			
date 11/05/2013		signature of at /s/ Beth E. Terr							
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUI	OGE		

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

 Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

 Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

Bee, Denning, Inc., d/b/a Practice Performance Group v. Capital Alliance Group

ATTACHMENT TO CIVIL COVER SHEET

Attorneys for Plaintiff:

Beth E. Terrell, CSB #178181 Email: bterrell@tmdwlaw.com Michael D. Daudt, CSB #161575 Email: mdaudt@tmdwlaw.com

Whitney B. Stark, CSB #234863 (*Attorney Admission Submitted – Status Pending*)

Email: wstark@tmdwlaw.com
TERRELL MARSHALL DAUDT
& WILLIE PLLC

936 North 34th Street, Suite 300 Seattle, Washington 98103-8869

Telephone: (206) 816-6603 Facsimile: (206) 358-3528

Stefan Coleman (*Pro Hac Vice Admission Application to be Filed*)
Email: law@stefancoleman.com
LAW OFFICES OF STEFAN COLEMAN
201 South Biscayne Boulevard, 28th Floor
Miami, Florida 33131

Telephone: (877) 333-9427 Facsimile: (888) 498-8946